

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/964,384	LEVINE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Barry W Taylor	2643	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/17/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-49 and 51-67.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 September 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

  
 CURTIS K. W. Z.  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
 TECHNOLOGY C

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-3, 5-49 and 51-67 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a system and method for providing an intercom service to a plurality of telephones associated with a calling number at a location, comprising: receiving at a remote network an intercom service request from a first telephone at the location, the intercom service request including the calling number associated with the location; determining that the calling number corresponds to a subscriber to the intercom service; receiving an on-hook signal at the remote network from the first telephone at the calling location and directing initiation of an intercom call from the network to the location upon receiving the on-hook signal as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 30, 36, 43, 47 and 54.

Prior art teaches (see US 5,930,346 Chen) teaches intercom service that requires use of a separate switch at customer premises and the separate switch is what provides an on-hook signal once an intercom call has been replaced. In stead of, requiring user to first call remote network and hang up phone so remote network can call back to setup intercom call as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 30, 36, 43, 47 and 54 and argued by Applicant in paper dated 12/17/04, page 14, lines 6-14.

Prior art (see US 6,345,047 Regnier) teaches using telephony adapter used for intercom service wherein user presses "#" to invoke the service, speaks "Sophie" and

Art Unit: 2643

hangs up. The adapter recognizes the “#” code and relays it to software residing in the adapter, informing it of the request for the intercom service. Next, the adapter applies Sophie distinctive ringing pattern on home wiring port. When Sophie answers from some phone in the house, the caller would pick-up his phone and communication would be established (column 19 lines 6-21).

However, Regnier does not require subscribers to subscribe to intercom service whereby the subscribers residing at same location utilize intercom service by dialing into remote network, hang-up and the remote network calling back to the same location that is requesting the intercom service as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 30, 36, 43, 47 and 54 and argued by Applicant in paper number 7, Amendment “A”, dated 10/14/2003, page 14, second full paragraph.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor, telephone number (571) 272-7509, who is available Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm.

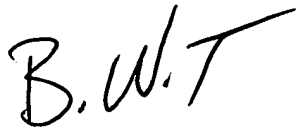
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz, can be reached at (571) 272-7499. The facsimile phone number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2600 receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600, the 2600 Customer Service telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For

Art Unit: 2643

more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Barry W. Taylor  
Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2600  
Art Unit 2643



CURTIS KUNTZ  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600